

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/781,043

Examiner

Daniel S. Metzmaier

Applicant(s)

MATSUMURA ET AL 2

Art Unit

1712

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 14 October 2003
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9 and 13-16
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f)
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of the
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

* Certified copies not received: _____

5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.78
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received
 6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet 37 CFR 1.78
- Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**
7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF AND/OR INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>012004</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 9 and 13-16 are allowed.

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: applicants' Rule 132 declaration filed October 15, 2003 with the response filed October 14, 2003 has obviated the obviousness rejection for the reasons therein.

The newly cited reference to Takami et al, US 6,626,967, is deemed to be pertinent to the instant claims. Takami et al does not qualify as prior art to the instant application. Furthermore, Takami et al requires the use of ammonium bicarbonate as an indispensable component of patentees' claimed compositions. Said components is not disclosed or claimed in the instant application. Also, the concentration of alkali metals are limited to 1 ppm or less while the Takami et al claims are silent regarding the alkali metal concentrations and discloses (column 3, line 65, to column 4, line 5) alkali metal bicarbonate species either alternative to or mixtures thereof including the ammonium bicarbonate.


The remaining art is cited to further show the state of the art. JP 2001-020087 is not prior art to the instant application. While the JP 2001-020087 discloses a water based dispersion, said dispersion contains a hydrogencarbonate ion and/or carbonate ion at 0.0002 to 0.02 mol/l, citrate ion at 0.0002 to 0.5 mol/l, silica at 0.3 to 15 wt %, and hydrogen peroxide at 0.01 to 5 wt% at a pH of 3-10. JP 2001-020087 (paragraph [0009]) teaches a number of metal containing carbonates sets forth citrates as an indispensable component. JP 2001-020087 exemplifies fumed silica and/or metal carbonates.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel S. Metzmaier whose telephone number is (703) 308-0451. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (571) 272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.


Daniel S. Metzmaier
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1712